

Appln. No. : 09/605,612 Confirmation No. 5855
Applicant : Lucas, *et al.*
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Examiner : Huynh, Cong Lac T.

Docket No. : 6169-142
IBM Docket No. : BOC9-1999-0008

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22203-1450

Sir:

I, Bruce D. Lucas, a citizen of the United States of America, residing in Mohegan Lake, NY 10547, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I was employed by International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) of Boca Raton, Florida at the time the above-identified application was conceived and continue to be employed by IBM. I make this declaration in support the above-identified application.

2. IBM has invested substantial time and effort into the research, development, and marketing of their products, and in an effort to protect its rights in all new inventions, IBM requests that all employees prepare and submit IBM Confidential Invention Disclosure Forms upon conception by the inventor(s).

3. As a named inventor for this invention, my co-inventor and I submitted the attached IBM Confidential Invention Disclosure BOC8-1999-0113.

4. I make this Declaration to establish that my co-inventor and I conceived of the present invention at least as early as November 11, 1999, and exercised due diligence from prior to November 11, 1999 through June 28, 2000, the filing date for the above-identified patent application.

5. Further, I claim that Claim 1 of the application was filed based upon the Confidential Invention Disclosure BOC8-1999-0113 as evidenced by the following:

Claim 1. A method for concurrently accessing network-based electronic content in a Voice Browser and a Visual Browser comprising the steps of:

identifying a Visual Browser and a Voice Browser, which are each implemented as functionally independent software components; *(page 1 to page 2 – "whereby the visual and voice browsing can be synchronized without writing a new, separate hybrid browser, and without having to write new function directly into existing voice or visual browsers" AND page 2 "to make cooperating applications without reprogramming of either of the applications")*

retrieving a network-based document formatted for display in the Visual Browser; *(the essence is to have co-target type tags that are designed for the other browser in the cobrowsing pair. Using the Highway Example of page 2, combined with the co-target tags, "When the user asks to be shown say San Luis Obispo, the co-target in the voice markup tells the visual browser to visit the appropriate URL")*

identifying in the retrieved document a reference to the Voice Browser, said reference specifying electronic content formatted for audible presentation in the Voice Browser; *(the co-target type tags are equivalent to the reference, the content formatted for audible presentation is the content referenced by the voice component to visit a URL associated with the Voice Browser)*

transmitting said reference to the Voice Browser; *(the co-target type tags are equivalent to the reference, the content formatted for audible presentation is the content referenced by the voice component to visit a URL associated with the Voice Browser)*

the Voice Browser retrieving said specified electronic content and audibly presenting said electronic content in the Voice Browser; *(the Voice Browser retrieves the audible content from a URL referenced by the co-target)*

the Visual Browser visually presenting said network-based document concurrently with said audible presentation, wherein the step of concurrently presenting results in a multi-modal presentation of the retrieved network-based document, the multi-modal presentation having a visual modality and an audible modality, functions for the visual modality being provided by the Visual Browser and functions for the audible modality being provided by the Voice Browser. *(from the end of page 1 of the Disclosure "The problem is how to create a*